

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Argentina

SUBJECT Argentine Communist Party Activities

PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

DATE OF IN [REDACTED]

DATE DISTR. 27 OCT 49

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCL. (LISTED BELOW)

FUD
366

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. Leaders of the Argentine Communist Party (CPA) have been greatly concerned over the large number of Communist workers and employees who are being discharged from their jobs, presumably because of their political affiliation. Nearly one hundred Communists have thus far been dismissed, among them Jose Brandeburgo and Ricardo Gomez, members of the CPA's Central Committee and Committee of the Federal Capital. Although the CPA had promised discharged Party members that it would seek new employment for them and help them economically during their period of unemployment, the Party later claimed it might not be able to fulfill its promise because of the large number who have been dismissed. However, it is believed that the CPA will comply with its promise and that it is merely attempting to create the impression that the Party is entirely dependent on dues received from its members and has no outside resources even in cases of emergency. It is known that the CPA has been making monthly contributions to unemployed members.
2. Although Communist leaders apparently do not wish to convene an extraordinary congress for the Party's militant members despite the CPA by-laws specifying that one should be held, they have decided to hold a congress around the end of 1949 in view of the growing strength of the dissident Communist group headed by Aurelio Bracco and Rodolfo Puiggros.*
3. In order to counteract any measures which may be taken by the Bracco-Puiggros faction, CPA leaders such as Rodolfo Ghieldi, Executive Committee member, and Geronimo Arnedo Alvarez, Secretary-General, have been touring the interior of Argentina for the purpose of obtaining first-hand information on the problems and views of active Party workers.

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